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STATE DOCUMENTS

MONTANA PROGRAM



DEPARTMENT
OF
INSTITUTIONS

Prior to July 1, 1963, the State-operated institutions were under the jurisdiction and control of the State Board of Examiners and the Board of Education. Recognizing the lack of coordination; absence of proper programming; the need to bring better administration to the institutions and better treatment and rehabilitation to their residents, the Department of Institutions was created by an Act of the 1963 Legislative Assembly.

The preamble to the Act states, "In order to utilize at maximum efficiency the resources of State Government in a coordinated effort to restore the physically and mentally disabled, to rehabilitate the violators of law, to sustain the dignity and vigor of the aged, to provide for children in need of temporary protection or correctional counseling, to train children of limited mental capacity to their best potential, to rededicate the resources of the State to the productive independence of its now dependent citizens and to coordinate and apply the principles of modern institutional management to the public institutions of the State, the State Department of Institutions is hereby created within the Executive branch of State Government."

The Act creating the Department also provided for a Board of Institutions, consisting of five members who are appointed for five-year terms by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. The members are selected so that not more than three are from the same congressional district and so that not more than three are affiliated with the same political party.

THE BOARD OF INSTITUTIONS

The function of the Board, in addition to other duties assigned to it by law, is to establish general policies for the management of the Department of Institutions.

Policy decisions cover a broad spectrum of activities including: recommendations to the Governor and legislature regarding changes in existing programs; approve the Department's long-range building program; review and approve budget requests prior to submittal to the Governor; and approve directives of a uniform nature which apply to all institutions.

THE DEPARTMENT OF INSTITUTIONS

The Department provides a broad frame work of administrative guides to the institutions under its control and implements the policy decisions of the Board. Existing programs are continually reviewed and recommendations are made to the Board to meet existing and long-range needs of the nearly 4,500 different persons who are institutionalized.

The Central Office operates four program units:

Fiscal Division — coordinates all fiscal matters relative to the institutions; the objective is the improvement of budgetary control; study of fiscal problems; and renders assistance in establishing records necessary to reflect program activities.

Personnel Division — primary goal is to establish standardized personnel policies and procedures for all institutions; and formulates an overall policy with respect to recruitment, job classification and compensation.

THE BOARD OF INSTITUTIONS THE DEPARTMENT OF INSTITUTIONS

Reimbursement Division — collections of per diem costs for the support of residents from relatives, guardians or other persons responsible for such support are made for services received in six of our institutions.

Aftercare Division — program supervises children who are released from the Department's juvenile correctional institutions. It includes direct supervision, independent living arrangements, group homes, and foster care placement.

Currently the Department employs eighteen persons. Ten are located in Central Office and eight work throughout the State in the Aftercare and Reimbursement Divisions.

MONTANA CHILDREN'S CENTER

The Montana Children's Center, located in Twin Bridges, was established in 1893. The primary function of the Center is to support and care for dependent or neglected children who require separation from their families or foster families or for whom foster care cannot be obtained. Children are admitted to the Center through the District Courts of Montana.

The education program at the Center includes an elementary system, with emphasis being given to the slow learner. High school students are enrolled in the high school in Twin Bridges.

Emphasis is placed on counseling and guidance of children both by social worker techniques and the utilization of cottage staff personnel.

The Center has, in recent years, been able to develop a clinically oriented program in order to ease the problems of some of the children and place some of them out of the institution earlier.

GALEN STATE HOSPITAL

The Galen State Hospital (formerly the State Pulmonary Disease Hospital) located in Galen, was established in 1913 for the purpose of treating tuberculosis and silicosis.

In recent years, because of the decline of tuberculosis patients, the hospital has become a multipurpose facility serving the following types of patients:

- (a) chest disease cases;
- (b) a one-hundred bed unit for the mentally retarded, transferred from the Boulder River School and Hospital;
- (c) a seventy-five bed unit for elderly senile patients, transferred from the Warm Springs State Hospital;
- (d) a medical-surgical unit which furnishes the Department of Institutions with a facility for the care of patients from all institutions as required. Plans for the further utilization of empty hospital beds are currently under consideration.

The Galen State Hospital Medical Treatment Unit is accredited by the Joint Commission of Accreditation of Hospitals.

MOUNTAIN VIEW SCHOOL

The Mountain View School (formerly the Vocational School for Girls) located in Helena, was established in 1893. The School was originally part of the Boys' and Girls' Industrial School at Miles City, and was transferred in 1919 to its present site.

The purpose of the School is to provide care, education and rehabilitation for girls between the ages of ten and twenty-one years of age who are committed by the juvenile courts.

**MONTANA CHILDREN'S CENTER
GALEN STATE HOSPITAL
MOUNTAIN VIEW SCHOOL**

Considerable emphasis has been placed during the last few years, on the development of a co-ordinated treatment program; this has been made much easier by addition of professionally oriented staff.

Treatment proceeds along two lines: through direct psychotherapy to rebuild their images and patterns of relationship to others and through planned living experience. There is also provided opportunities for varied types of activities; i.e. occupation at tasks which are part of common life in school; expression through creative arts; participation in games; group activities; and education in the usual sense.

PINE HILLS SCHOOL

The Pine Hills School (formerly the Industrial School for Boys) located in Miles City, was established in 1893.

The purpose of the School is to provide care, education and rehabilitation for boys between the ages of ten and twenty-one years of age who have been committed by the juvenile courts.

The School attempts to accomplish this purpose by changing the faulty and negative attitudes of the students and by helping them gain self-control over their behavior. It attempts to ascertain the problems, the needs, and the potential of each individual boy.

Recognizing that it is the day-to-day experiences that bring about modification of behavior, all activities are therapeutically oriented. Through planned activities, students are provided a variety of experience. Work assignments are geared to provide meaningful vocational experiences; since most of the students are educationally retarded, the academic program is individually planned so that it will be helpful for the boys to meet their obligations as useful citizens in their communities.

Emphasis continues in the area of qualified staff recruitment and inservice training to upgrade present employees. The plan is to focus mainly

on the refinement and expansion of the programs now instituted, keeping in mind changes when it benefits the individual boy.

BOULDER RIVER SCHOOL AND HOSPITAL

The Boulder River School and Hospital (formerly the State Training School and Hospital) located in Boulder, was established in 1893 for the care of the deaf, blind and mentally retarded.

The facility now provides for the care, treatment, education and training of mentally retarded persons. Primary emphasis is placed on an educational and therapeutic program which will provide every resident with the opportunity to develop his capabilities.

The goal of the program is the return of individuals to the home or community, or where this cannot be done, to train the individual to be as self sufficient as possible within the institution.

Diversified services must be provided to meet the multiplicity of problems and conditions of the retarded; many have physical handicaps; some have no speech, hearing or usable vision; others are non-ambulatory.

Of major significance has been the change in emphasis from a program primarily concerned with custody toward one of treatment and rehabilitation.

Medical services have been increased to include regular medical care and surgery, which for a variety of conditions, is done in a well-equipped hospital. Surgical procedures at the institution by the Medical-Clinical Director and other specialists has gained nationwide attention. Orthopedic surgeons and medical students frequently visit the hospital in order to observe the latest techniques which have been developed.

Some three hundred residents take part in the School program. In addition, a trainable curriculum has been developed to assist those residents who cannot profit from a formal academic program, but who can be trained in self-care.

PINE HILLS SCHOOL
BOULDER RIVER SCHOOL AND HOSPITAL

A physical therapy program was started in 1963; this together with speech therapy, psychological and social services has resulted in the return of many residents to the community, who would otherwise be expected to remain at the institution for a lifetime. In cooperation with the State of Montana Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, training and job placement of an increasing large number of residents has been possible.

SWAN RIVER YOUTH FOREST CAMP

The Swan River Youth Forest Camp, located south of Bigfork, will be opened July 1, 1968.

The camp program is to rehabilitate juvenile male delinquents and also gainfully employ these young men in the Montana Swan River State Forest.

Boys will be admitted to this facility by transfer from the Pine Hills School; age criteria for admission is sixteen years old.

The camp program will include a combination of work, camp life, counseling and recreation, and will accommodate fifty boys.

The work of these young men in the State-owned forests will return dividends to the State, not only in terms of rehabilitation of the person involved, but also to the taxpayers through increasing the assets of public resources.

WARM SPRINGS STATE HOSPITAL

The Warm Springs State Hospital, (formerly the State Hospital) located at Warm Springs, was established in 1877. The function of the hospital is the care and treatment of mentally ill persons and alcoholics who are committed by the courts. The Hospital is in the Division of Mental Hygiene of the Department of Institutions. In recent years statistical information continues to show a decrease in the average daily patient population, an increase in admissions, and a significant increase in discharges at the hospital. These continuing and encouraging trends represent the development of a progressive treatment program and indicate program effectiveness

The Hospital has implemented the unit system, whereby patients admitted from three geographic areas are treated throughout their stay by three separate treatment teams; i.e. a Western, Central and Eastern Unit. Each treatment team has its psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, nurses, alcoholism counselors, and psychiatric aides or attendants. Admission, treatment, and arrangements for follow-up care are the responsibility of the same unit team. The patient does not transfer from team-to-team.

Patients with alcoholic problems from all areas, after preliminary evaluation by the respective team may be referred for treatment to a special unit which is designed to offer a five-week course of treatment, and to make available long term community support through Alcoholic Anonymous to help them maintain sobriety. This program is recognized as being one of the most effective in the country.

The hospital staff offers care for all diagnostic categories, including patients facing criminal charges, transfers from Montana State Prison, and other institutions; geriatric problems; severely retarded and physically handicapped children; patients with complicated medical and/or surgical problems, in addition to their primary psychiatric problems. Separate programs are in effect for these categories, distinct from the Unit System.

Hospital staff also routinely provide psychiatric consultation at Montana State Prison, the Children's Center, and on a non-routine basis to other institutions. Consultation is much more frequently available and requested for the courts, community agencies and general practitioners.

Treatment programs and physical plants involving 130 beds in the receiving hospital have been declared in compliance with Medicare standards, and therefore the State receives cost of care up to 90 days per hospitalization, for each eligible patient over 65.

The Division of Mental Hygiene operates five Mental Hygiene Clinics offering outpatient services in Butte, Missoula, Helena, Great Falls, and Billings.

**SWAN RIVER YOUTH FOREST CAMP
WARM SPRINGS STATE HOSPITAL**

Senate Bill 85 (Chapter 246, Montana 1967 Session Laws) authorized the establishment of Mental Health Regions by the counties to provide Comprehensive Regional Mental Health Services. Regions established in the State Mental Health Centers Construction Plan promulgated by the State Department of Health. Provisions of this Act authorizes the Division of Mental Hygiene to contract with the Regional Boards for the support of the program up to 50% of the total expenditure.

MONTANA STATE PRISON

The Montana State Prison, located at Deer Lodge, was established in 1869. Its purpose is to provide for the custody, training and rehabilitation of adult criminal offenders who have been committed from the courts of the county where the felony occurred.

The objectives of the prison are to serve and protect the public by control and correction of committed adult offenders; to administer the sentences of the courts and to prepare the committed offenders for return to the community as useful persons.

In order to accomplish these objectives the prison has the following programs: Care and custody; vocational training; academic and religious training; counseling; physical education; and a work program.

The educational program has become a highly valuable tool in the program of rehabilitation; statistics indicate that emphasis on this program has reduced the return rate. Justification for this is based on the established fact that there is a highly negative relationship between the years of education and indices of delinquency and crime. The program is guided by the State Department of Public Instruction, with many inmates receiving both grade and high school diplomas.

Ranch production is at a high level with cattle, hogs, poultry and eggs being furnished to all institutions in the Deer Lodge Valley on a full-scale basis. Produce such as potatoes, etc. are also grown for consumption in State institutions.

MONTANA VETERANS' HOME

The Montana Veterans' Home, located in Columbia Falls, was established in 1895 to provide a

home and subsistence to any individual who is honorably discharged from the armed services of the United States, and who has become unable to earn a livelihood by reason of such service or because of his age. Under certain circumstances, wives or widows of veterans may be admitted to the institution.

The Home furnishes the basic needs for the physical care of its members, including a modest recreation and leisure activities program.

MONTANA CENTER FOR THE AGED

The Montana Center for the Aged, is located in Lewistown. It was established in 1949 to provide residential care and treatment of senile men and women who have been admitted to Warm Springs State Hospital and subsequently transferred to the Center.

The Center furnishes domiciliary and nursing care services to its residents. Should serious medical problems develop the patient is returned to the Warm Springs State Hospital.

EASTERN MONTANA RETARDATION UNIT GLENDDIVE

The Fortieth Legislative Assembly appropriated \$165,000 for the purpose of constructing a retardation facility in Eastern Montana. Together with Federal funds, which have been made available, the total cost of this project is expected to be approximately \$348,333.

As currently financed, the assigned architect has been advised to plan two cottages, capacity of 16 each; and a multipurpose building.

Initially mildly retarded children will meet the admission criteria, however, preference will be given to the moderately retarded. The facility will serve as an education, training and living type unit for children on a five day basis with emergency housing for four children in case of illness or weekend placement.

This facility will be opened in the fall of 1969.

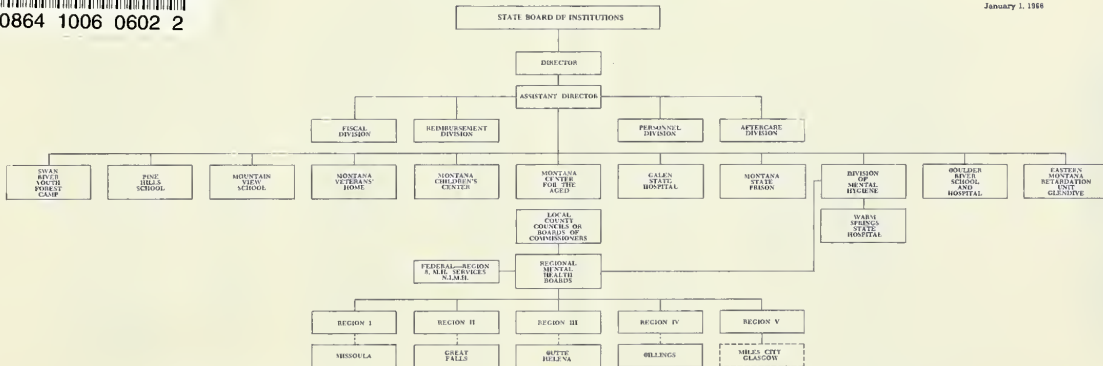
**MONTANA STATE PRISON
MONTANA VETERAN'S HOME
MONTANA CENTER FOR THE AGED
EASTERN MONTANA RETARDATION UNIT
GLENDDIVE**



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MONTANA STATE DEPARTMENT OF INSTITUTIONS

January 1, 1966



NOTE: Division of Mental Hygiene—Dotted lines indicate Out-Patient Clinics to be merged into Regional Mental Health Plan when operative under Regional Mental Health Boards.